

CHAPTER 7

TRAINING

See National Security Directive 66 (reference (m)).

A. GENERAL

In accordance with DoD Directive 3025.1 (reference (c)), the DoD Components are **charged** with the responsibility of planning for and responding to civil emergencies within the United States. Traditionally, and by Presidential Directive (National Security Directive 66, reference (m)), the Department of Defense is prepared to supplement civil capabilities when requested by competent authorities. National Security Directive 66, reference (m), emphasizes that the Secretary of Defense will facilitate use of the National Guard for MSCA in peace or war. Both Active Components and National Guard elements must plan and train for coordinated response operations.

To accomplish this mission, the DoD Components train designated personnel to be competent in a variety of plans, directives, command relationships, organizational capabilities, and interagency relationships. A course of instruction co-sponsored by the FEMA and the DoD Executive Agent exists to train military personnel in the functions required to plan for and execute military assistance provided to civil authorities.

These programs should focus on units that may be called upon to provide support for the civilian community, as well as installations and staffs at all levels. A key to success for these training programs is a well-thought-out and funded exercise program. The Regional Planning Agents (RPAs) and the Services hold the key to developing a viable program to train and exercise for these emergencies. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Service staffs, in coordination with the DoD Executive Agent, will include Military Support to Civil Authority (MSCA) exercises in the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Five-Year Exercise Program. The Principal and Regional Planning Agents are responsible to ensure budgets are programmed to reflect funds for exercising and training.

B. DEFENSE COORDINATING OFFICERS (DCO) TRAINING

1. The key to any military response to an emergency is to have mature, trained leadership available for that response. For Military Support to Civil Authorities, in most cases, the principal coordinator of military responses to disasters is the DCO. Normally this individual is a Colonel or Captain (O-6). The DCO functions as a coordinating staff officer and his or her role is different from a JTF commander, hence the requirement for

two separate individuals. Selection of candidates for this job is the purview of the appropriate command, but certain attributes should be considered before selection.

2. Some points for consideration are:

a. Resource Capability. DCOS should be knowledgeable of command and control, transportation assets, and communications capability of response forces.

b. Retainability. Since the DCO must learn a spectrum of regulations and responsibilities, time in the position is critical and the need for continuity is essential.

c. Predesignation. CINC's predesignate a DCO for each State, territory, or protectorate in their AOR.

d. Background. The DCO candidate, if at all possible, should have had a joint assignment. A good working knowledge of the RC is invaluable.

e. DCO Training Programs. CINCs should institute a training program for DCOS that will prepare them for their roles. Training should be conducted annually, and more often for locations with a frequent disaster history, and should include the following subjects, as a minimum:

(1) Federal Response Plan (FRP).

(2) Regional disaster assistance plans.

(3) Legal aspects of providing military support to civilian jurisdictions.

(4) Military capabilities within the DCO's area or responsibility.

(5) Validation procedures for requests from FCO and/or State officials.

(6) Role of the Executive Agent.

f. Plans Review. The command should review its disaster and response plans with the DCOS and stress the coordination and validation roles of the DCO with civil authorities.

9" Command And Control Structures. An overview of the various command and control systems that the DCO can encounter should be taught. A thorough discussion of the civilian command and control structure known as the Incident Command System (ICS) should be reviewed so the DCO is comfortable with parallel command and control systems in the civil community.

h. Service Capabilities. A joint Service capabilities briefing should be arranged so the DCO's know what types of support are available and how that support can be provided.

i. Support Requirements. Support briefings centering on such diverse subjects as legal, fiscal (financial), and public affairs support are necessary to insure a well rounded DCO.

j. Defense Coordinating Element. DCOS should plan for and be aware of support staff (DCE) requirements. Additional resources can include Reserve EPLO personnel of all Services.

C. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE TRAINING

DoD Directive 3025.1, reference (c), directs CINCUSACOM, in coordination with FEMA, to conduct civil military training courses and exercises. This tasking is partially fulfilled by the National Security Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officers Course (EPLO) currently taught at the FEMA Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, MD.

The course targets EPLOS for instruction in civil military operations under ALL HAZARDS. Additionally, representatives from the DoD Components and those agencies which have a direct association with the Department of Defense during emergencies, such as FEMA, may attend.

The course should be attended as early as possible during a tour which the incumbent has duties which embrace civil/military operations in the United States, it's territories and possessions.

D. EXERCISES

The FRP has assigned ESFS #3 (Public Works and Engineering) to the Department of Defense as the lead Federal Agency, and assigned DoD as a support agency to all other Emergency Support Functions. Preparing for this role has great importance. Aside from plans, Regional Planning Agents and Services should include exercises that emphasize MSCA in the exercise schedule (5 year plan). Areas covered should include team capabilities, team composition, command and control, DCO support relationships, deployment, employment, considerations for employment, and special situations.

A "Structures Specialist" training program for US&R is also available through the USACE Earthquake Preparedness Center of Expertise. Selected engineers may be sent to the USACE, FORSCOM, and FEMA-sponsored course for in depth training.